

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 6-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 6-10 have been amended to recite "*method executed on a computer*" and "*input image is displayed*". Withdrawal of the 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

On page 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-2 and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Simon (U.S. Patent No. 7,039,222). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Independent claim 1 recites an apparatus for processing an input image. Specifically, the apparatus has a compression unit for compressing shape and texture data separately. The apparatus also has a mapping unit for mapping texture data onto the shape data. These features are recited in claim 1 as "*a compression unit for compressing a shape data and a texture data separately*" and "*a mapping unit for mapping the texture data onto the shape data.*" Method claim 6 also recites these features as "*fourth step for compressing the shape data and compressing the texture data separately*" and "*seventh step for mapping the reconstructed texture data of the sixth step onto the reconstructed shape data.*"

The features of claims 1 and 6 are stated in the specification on page 28 line 10 to page 29 line 15. Compressing texture and shape data separately is disclosed as "*separated shape data is compressed...while separated texture data is compressed.*" This feature is furthermore shown in Fig. 18 as shape data compression unit 1503 and texture data compression unit 1504. Separate compression units 1503 and 1504 allow the shape and texture data to be compressed separately. Furthermore, mapping texture data onto shape data is disclosed as "*mapping of the texture data...onto the shape data reconstructed.*" This feature is shown in Fig. 17 and disclosed on page 25 line 28 to page 27 line 25. For example, selected texture data frame 1406 of the shirt in display window 1401 is mapped onto the shirt in enhancement information display section 1405. This allows texture data to be enhanced and mapped onto another image.

Simon teaches a system for enhancing images, specifically portraits. In the abstract, Simon teaches segmenting a portrait into different regions for enhancement processing. In column 17 lines 15-20, Simon discloses that skin texture can be enhanced ("*skin enhancing filter is to smooth the local texture of the skin*"). In column 18 lines 45-50, Simon teaches dilating skin features of a portrait ("*The effect of dilation on a skin feature is to enlarge the size of the skin feature*"). Simon, however, does not teach or suggest compressing texture and shape data separately. Simon also does not teach or suggest mapping texture data onto shape data. Therefore, Simon does not teach or suggest the features of currently amended claims 1 and 6.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, claims 1 and 6 is patentable over the art of record.

Newly added claim 11 recites shape and texture data reconstructing units for reconstructing compressed shape and texture data ("*shape data reconstructing unit...texture data reconstructing unit*").

Claims 2, 3, 5 and 11 include all the features of claim 1 from which they depend. Thus, claims 2, 3, 5 and 11 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

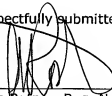
Claims 7, 8 and 10 include all the features of claim 6 from which they depend. Thus, claims 7, 8 and 10 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

Page 25, line 29 of the specification has been amended to replace "In Fig. 14" with "In Fig. 17". This amendment was made because this paragraph is clearly directed to Fig. 17 of the specification.

The Examiner has not acknowledged receiving the certified copy that was mailed August 2, 2004 with response to missing parts.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Allan Ratner', written over a horizontal line.

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